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The Urban District Council of
Carnforth.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER


OF

HEALTH

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December

1948.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.



Gentlemen,

In accordance with Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, I beg to present to you my ANNUAL REPORT, for 1948, as Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District.

This is an Ordinary Report, and is on the lines indicated in Circular 3/49 of the Ministry of Health, dated 17th January, 1949.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,
JAMES A. TOMB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

1949.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical:

JAMES A. TOMB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Others:

FRED HOLT, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector
(part time).

*(Information relating to the Area and the circumstances of
the year).*

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	1,504 Acres
Population (Census 1931), 3,139; 1948	3,381
Number of Inhabited Houses end of 1948 according to Rate Book	1,008
Rateable Value	£17.484
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£70

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, INCLUDING THE CHIEF OCCUPATIONS OF THE
INHABITANTS.

The social conditions are very satisfactory. The inhabitants are
Railway and Rural workers.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		TOTAL		M	F	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Live Births	Legitimate	66	38	28		
	Illegitimate	3	2	1		
	Total	69	40	29		20.4
Still Births		3	—	3		Rate per 1,000 (live and still) Births
						41
Deaths		42	23	19		Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
						12.4

Deaths from Puerperal causes:—

	Death	Death Rate per 1,000 Total live & still) Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	—	—
Total	—	—
Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age		—
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births		188
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births		181
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births		333
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		4
,, ,, Measles (all ages)		—
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)		—
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		—

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1948.

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths (The number of deaths classified should agree with the total supplied by the Registrar General)			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
1-5								
5-10								
10-15		1						
15-20								
20-25		1	1					
25-35		1	1		2			
35-45								
45-55								
55-65								
65 & over								
Totals	3		2		2		Nil	
	3		2		2		Nil	

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis of resp. system	2	—
Tuberculosis (other forms)	—	1
Cancer	1	3
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	2	3
Heart Disease	3	6
Other Diseases of Circ. System	3	—
Pneumonia	1	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—
Ulcer, Stomach or Duodenum	2	—
Other Digestive Disorders	1	—
Nephritis	—	1
Premature Birth	1	—
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infantile Dis.	2	—
All Other Causes	4	4
Total	23	19

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1948.

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.												HOSPITAL.			
	Total Cases All Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & over	Total Deaths	Total Cases Removed to Hospital from the District.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District.
Measles	13	...	1	1	1	2	7	.	.	1	...	.	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total..	14	...	1	1	1	3	7	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...

Disinfectants have been supplied in all cases.

One house has been fumigated.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

It is necessary to point out for the information of members of the Council that up to July 5th, 1948, the provision of diphtheria immunisation facilities was the duty of the Carnforth Urban District Council as local Sanitary Authority. After that date under the National Health Service Act arrangements for diphtheria immunisation became the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council acting as the local Health Authority.

Under the present system children can be immunised either by their own family doctor or at clinics conducted by the Divisional Medical Officer of the local Health Division and his staff.

Records of immunisation are completed by the General Practitioner in respect of children whom he has immunised and forwarded to the Divisional Health Office.

Records of immunisation carried out at the clinics are completed by the Divisional Medical Officer's staff.

The following table shows the number of children immunised in Carnforth Urban District up to December 31st, 1948.

I should point out that up to July 5th, 1948, many parents had their children immunised by their own private Practitioner and of this number we have no accurate records.

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1948.

Age at 31st December, 1948. i.e. born in year.	under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5-9 1939-43	10-15 1934-38	Total under 15
Number Immunised.	5	56	41	44	25	168	179	518
Estimated Mid-Year Child Population 1948.	Children under 5 years 270					Children 5-14 years 437		707

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY UP TO JULY 5th, 1948.

Carnforth is one of the constituent authorities to the Lancaster and District Joint Hospital Board for Infectious Diseases.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES UP TO JULY 5th, 1948.

(a) FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.

Infectious Cases are removed to the Lancaster and District Joint Hospital in Motor Ambulance belonging to the said Hospital.

(b) FOR NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.

These cases are dealt with by the Police Ambulance owned by the Lancaster Corporation.

After July 5th, 1948, all ambulance services were provided by the Divisional Health Committee of the Lancashire County Council, administered from the Divisional Health Office, 4/5, Dalton Square, Lancaster.

SUMMARY (for reference) OF NURSING INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

There are no Private Nursing Homes in the District from which Nurses can be obtained, the nearest being at Ulverston.

Up to July 5th, 1948, there was available a District Nurse, supplied by the Carnforth Nursing Association, a Voluntary Association, affiliated with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nursing. The District Nurse carries out the duties of District Midwife.

As from July 5th, 1948, the District Nursing Services are provided by the Divisional Health Committee of the Lancashire County Council, administered from the Divisional Health Office, 4/5, Dalton Square, Lancaster.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS AND HOMELESS CHILDREN.

There is no special provision for these in the District.

The Lancashire County Council have provided a School Clinic and Child Welfare Centre at 21, Market Street, Carnforth.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE.

The Sewage from the main part of the District is disposed of by running into a settling tank, the liquid running into the river Keer which is a tidal stream. The sludge is used for agricultural purposes. Periodical flushing of all sewers is regularly carried out by means of emptying a ton of water from the water-cart through a twelve-inch valve down the manholes.

The whole of the built up area in the Crag Bank District is now sewered. The sewerage is dealt with by means of disposal plants consisting of screening chambers, settling tanks and filter beds.

The present state of the Closet accommodation in the district is as follows:—

Privy Middens, No. of Middens	28
No. of Closets attached to these Middens ...	28
No. of Pail Closets	Nil
No. of Fresh Water Closets	933
No. of Waste Water Closets	47
No. of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens)	1
No. of Moveable Ashbins for Refuse	981

Conversions during the year 1948:—

No. of Privy Closets to Fresh Water W.C.'s	Nil
No. of Privies situate within the Council's present Sewage System	Nil
No. of Houses at which Moveable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles	Nil

The Council have decided to abolish all privy middens within the Council's present sewage scheme.

SCAVENGING.

The collection of House Refuse is carried out by the Council's own staff for the greater portion of the district, the outlying farmers, etc., dealing with their own refuse.

The Refuse is disposed of on the Tipping ground purchased for that purpose.

The number of receptacles emptied are:—

	DWELLING HOUSES
Bins	981
Ashpits	27
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	Total 1,008

	CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, POST OFFICES, ETC.
Bins	38
Ashpits	—
	<hr/>
	Total 38

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

Number of premises visited, 89.

Defects or Nuisances: Number discovered, 89; number abated,

87.

Number of Notices served (informal), 87.

Statutory, Nil.

Legal proceedings, Nil.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No houses were found to be infested.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The different Factories and Workshops have been regularly inspected, and all are kept in a thoroughly sanitary condition, and answer the requirements of the Act.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are three Bakehouses in the District, all are partly above ground, are properly ventilated and well kept.

The Workshops and Factories are as follows:—

Bakers and Confectioners	3
Boot and Shoe Repairers	4
Blacksmiths	1
Coach Builders	2
Dressmakers, etc.	5
Gas Works	1
Printers	1
Saw Mill and Joinery Works	4

Total, 21

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are three Slaughterhouses in the District, one being of modern construction, the remaining two being corrugated iron and wooden structures. Slaughtering for this district, for the Meat Marketing Board, is carried out at Lancaster

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

The Dairies and Cowsheds have been inspected, and periodical lime-washing carried out.

LODGING-HOUSES.

There is no common lodging-house in the district.

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary conditions and Water Supply of the Public Elementary Schools are good.

4.—HOUSING.

(a) STATISTICS.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	50
(i) By the Local Authority	42
(ii) By other Local Authorities	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	8
(b) WITH STATE ASSISTANCE UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS:—	
(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above)	42
(ii) By other bodies or persons (included under (a) (iii) above)	Nil

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling-Houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	89
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	332
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	89

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR:—

WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	87
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(a) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices	Nil

HOUSING—Continued.

(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(b) <i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices:—	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c) <i>Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(d) <i>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—</i>	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	Nil

HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING:—

(a) (i) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	*
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	42
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	136

* No general survey of overcrowding has been made since 1937.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

1.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AS TO HOUSING CONDITIONS:

Four hundred and fifty-nine Cottage type and 286 Parlour type built in rows mostly about the year 1880, good standard for that period and generally sound.

Two hundred and sixty-three Detached and Semi-detached, modern good standard and generally sound.

There are no serious defects in any of the properties which would demand service of demolition notice.

There are no back-to-back houses.

During the year the Council completed the erection of 49 new Houses. Twenty-three Houses are now in course of erection.

2.—FITNESS OF HOUSES.

There is no insanitary property in the area.

3.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.

No part of the area is scheduled as unhealthy.

4.—BYE-LAWS.

The existing Bye-Laws appear to be adequate and no difficulty has presented itself.

5.—The housing administration appears to be generally satisfactory.

NUISANCES.

Defective Ashpits or Bins	54
Defective Drains and W.C.'s	10
General Defects	10
Defective Roofs and Chimneys	11
Defective Eaves, Gutters and Waste Pipes	3
Insufficient Water Supply	1
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Total	89

Three hundred and thirty-two visits have been paid inspecting nuisances and work in progress.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water is obtained from the Carnforth Water Company's Reservoir, situate at Whithets, capacity 70,000,000 gallons. The supply is constant.

The nature of the gathering ground is partly of a peaty and partly of a sandstone nature and therefore is good for domestic purposes.

Owing to the position of the gathering ground the water is liable to animal pollution.

The Water Company have provided an effective and modern chlorination and filtration plant.

Samples for bacteriological analysis are taken regularly. The Reports have been consistently good.

The outlying farms and cottages are dependent upon springs and wells.

No. of houses using Water Company's piped supply direct to houses	996
No. of houses using Rain and Well water	12

(Signed),

JAMES A. TOMB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

